

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736

Draft Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load

**Comment On:** EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736-0001

Clean Water Act Section 303(d): Notice for the Public Review of the Draft Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay

**Document:** EPA-R03-OW-2010-0736-0573

Comment submitted by B. Tabb

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## Submitter Information

**Submitter's Representative:** Bob Tabb

**Organization:** West Virginia Farmer

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## General Comment

For five generations my family has been farming in Jefferson County WV. Like most other farmers my family takes pride in being good stewards of our land and water.

As new practices have evolved my family has installed proper manure handling,nutrient management,notil planting and cover crops.Most of these BMP's were started prior tp 1985.

It appears that the EPA does not believe any BMP's were in place prior to 1985.

The EPA did not have the public meetings in WV until Nov.3rd and 4th with the cutoff on comments on Nov. 8th.

NOT MOCH TIME FOR COMMENTS FROM WEST VIRGINIA

for the plan for the next 15 years.

At the meeting we were told we were Good neighbors so far...and we had done a good job of reducing N in the water.

Yet the EPA says they have little confidence in our WIP.

We have asked for more time to submit our WIP but the EPA

refuses to extend for a plan that will affect farming for the next 15 years.

Problems have been pointed out in the model but we are told we must move forward.

The problem with flawed models is that water runs uphill without a pump,when in reality it does not !

The farmers of West Virginia are willing to continue to be Good Stewards of our land and water, but we will not stand idle and be Scapegoats for those who blame Agriculture for the decline in the Bay water quality.

In the last 50 years the population has doubled,the amount of Ag land has declinded, the number of oysters in the Bay has diminished .... and the EPA wants to blame Agriculture.

The EPA needs to see where the other fingers are pointing when they point a finger at Agriculture!

I sincerely hope the EPA will listen to the farming community

that supplies the most abundant,safest,and most economical food supply in the world.

Thank You for the opportunity to voice my opinion and concerns about the future of Agriculture in the Bay watershed.

Bob Tabb  
1885 Darke Lane  
Kearneysville, WV 25430